The DAILY COMMERCIAL, published by The Commercial Printing Company, corner Fifth Avenue and Smithfield Street, opposite Postoffice.
C. B. BRIGHAM, Editor.
E. D. Thompson, Business Manager.
☞ Terms—Daily, delivered by carrier, 25 cents per week; mailed to subscribers, $6 a year; $3 for six months, $2 for three months, $1 for one month.
☞ Communications designed for publication should be addressed to the Editor.
☞ Letters on Business, Subscriptions, &c., address COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh.
The Weekly Commercial, a large sheet containing all the choice matter of the Daily, and a fine selection of miscellaneous, literary and interesting intelligence, and Valuable Reading for the Family.
☞ TERMS OF THE WEEKLY: For Year (in advance) $2 00; in Clubs of Twenty, $1 50; one copy gratis to the getter-up of the Club.
☞ Money must always accompany the order, and in no instance can these terms be departed from.
☞ Communications are required to be set in Agate.
☞ Communications designed for publication should be addressed to the Editor.
☞ Letters on Business, Subscriptions, &c., address COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh.

The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. VIII. PITTSBURGH, TUESDAY MORNING, MARCH [illegible] NO. 150.

FIRST EDITION.

EUROPE.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

Evacuation of Versailles—Return of Prisoners—The Late Railroad Accident—Sixty Injured—The French Radicals Condemned by the Press—Work of the Black Conference Completed, &c., &c.

ENGLAND.

Work of the Conference Finished.

LONDON, March 13.—The reports that the Black Sea conference needed re-doing, met up to a late hour Sunday that de Brogtlie, the French envoy to the Court of St. James, was without instructions to adopt the session.

LONDON, March 13, 4 P. M.—The Black Sea Conference held a session to-day, at which all the members, including the Duc de Broglie as representative of France, were present. It is believed that all matters under discussion have been arranged, and that is probably the last meeting of the Conference.

France to Tax Raw Material.

It is reported from Paris that the government intends to levy a tax on the imported raw material, especially textile fabrics. The tax on cotton alone is expected to produce annually from sixty to eighty million of francs. The foreign manufactured articles will also be taxed proportionately.

Stansfield Re-elected to Parliament.

LONDON, March 8.—James Stansfield having accepted a Cabinet office, went to his constituency, the city of Halifax, for re-election to Parliament, and was returned without opposition.

Eight Lives Lost.

Eight lives have been lost by the wreck of a steam launch upon the coast of the island of Jersey.

About the French Army.

The *Daily News* has a special from Brussels announcing that all the French prisoners in Belgium have been released and gone home.

A French official journal publishes a decree approving of the formation of regiments of infantry at the disposition, and the discharge, of the soldiers of the late armies of armies recently operating in the north and the camps of instruction at Havre, in Brittany, and in the Vosges.

A Paris dispatch gives positive contradiction to the report that Prince Napoleon Bonaparte, Minister of Finances, intends to make reforms in the management of the finances.

McMahon Returns to France.

LONDON, March 13.—Marshal McMahon has left Wiesbaden on his return to France.

The Crown Prince of Saxony will establish his headquarters at Compiegne on Thursday at 4 P. M.

A dispatch dated from Weimar says: Great preparations have been made to receive Emperor William, Prince Imperial Frederick William and General Von Moltke, who will pass through the city on the railway on their way to Berlin.

Changes in the English Cabinet.

(Special to the World.)

LONDON, March 13.—Hoping to strengthen the Government against the opposition of a number of progress to introduce into the Cabinet two radical members—Holmes, member for Hackney, and another, name unknown.

The Emperor's Triumphal March to Berlin.

LONDON, March 13.—Emperor William has set out on his return to Berlin accompanied by a large number of Princes, officers of the army, and representatives of the German Governments. The party reached Ligny at noon to-day, and were received with enthusiasm by the returning troops, with whom the city was crowded.

New Treaty on the Eastern Question.

LONDON, March 13.—In the House of Lords to-night, Earl Granville announced that the Conference of the powers on the Eastern question had closed. A treaty had been signed at the Foreign office, stipulating the readmission of the Russian fleet to the Black Sea under the Dardanelles and Bosphorus. The Porte in times of peace may admit in those straits vessels of friendly powers as may be needed to enforce the treaty of 1856. The Danish delegation, in a protocol, declare that the Emperor expressly declares that no power can release any of the obligations of the treaty without the consent of all the signatories.

Marine News.

LONDON, March 13.—The steamship Siberia, from Portland, touched at Queenstown.

The Markets.

LONDON, March 13, 4:30 P. M.—Consols 91; for money and 91⅛ for account. Bonds steady: 6s 91⅛; 5s, 91⅝; 4s, 90½; 10-40s 86⅞.

LIVERPOOL, March 13.—Receipts of 60 bales. Liverpool, March 13.—Cotton steady; middling uplands 7⅞; 7⅞; orleans 7⅞.

Breadstuffs quiet; red Western wheat 9s 2d @9s 5d. Flour 28s.

PRUSSIA.

Return of the Emperor—The Army of Occupation.

BERLIN, March 13.—Emperor William is ill at Forbach, but will leave for this city on Tuesday next. The journey will be direct, the condition of the Emperor's health rendering it inexpedient for him to stop on the way by a visit to any of the Princes of the Empire.

It is announced that the Seventh and Twelfth Prussian corps and the Wurtemburgers will form the army of occupation of that portion of France to be held by the Germans until the conclusion of the treaty of peace are fulfilled.

SPAIN.

Disturbances at Alcante—The Elections.

MADRID, March 12.—A serious disturbance has taken place in the provinces at Alcante. An armed mob fired upon the Mayor and other civic authorities. Some lives were lost.

In the elections the opportunists were triumphant, the constituency of Old Castile alone remaining counter.

The King's trip to meet the Queen has been deferred.

FRANCE.

Review of Prussian Troops.

ANCENIS, March 12.—The Emperor is indisposed, and is unable to review the troops. The Crown Prince will review them.

Versailles Evacuated—Return of Prisoners—Twenty Killed and Sixty Injured by the Late Railroad Accident—The Radicals Condemned by the Press.

PARIS, March 13.—Versailles has been evacuated by the Germans, and the French garrison has been installed in the city.

A convention for the return of French prisoners in Germany has been signed at Forbriens. Seven thousand will be sent from Metz to Saint Hardrey, where officers will come overland.

It has been ascertained that twenty German soldiers were killed and sixty injured by the accident at Pretenay on the Northwestern Railroad.

The Radicals have published placards urging the army not to fight the people, but the appeal has been productive of no effect on the troops. Six Radical papers have been suppressed by the authorities. The city is now entirely quiet, and without signs of a renewal of the recent agitation. Paris is enthusiastic by the entire press.

The state of Montmartre is unchanged, and is one of perfect tranquility. A fraction of the National Guard, which is charged with possession of a number of cannon, refusing to give them up to the authorities.

The *Debats to-day* indignantly denounces the placards put in circulation by the Reds as promising revolt to the army.

SWITZERLAND.

Investigation of the Recent Disturbances.

BERNE, March 13.—The Council has ordered a judicial investigation of the recent disturbance between the French and Germans. No further trouble is anticipated, and the troops called out have been withdrawn.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

The troops in Cuba on Sunday took the oath of fidelity to King Amadeus.

The earthquake of February 19th in the Hawaiian Islands was general throughout the groupe. On Lanai great rocks were hurled down from the cliffs, and some small valleys rendered uncultivable by the debris from the mountains. The great wonder is that no lives were lost on any of the islands. Two shocks commenced at Honolulu at seven minutes past ten P. M., three in number in rapid succession, lasting fully a minute.

Horace Howes, a San Francisco lawyer, died on Sunday. He leaves $1,000,000 in property, so tied up as to be reader it valueless to his children.

The compositors on the Cleveland *Herald* are on a strike.

The Board of Registers of Clarendon, Iowa, decided that women were entitled to vote at school elections, and the names of all ladies of proper age were placed on the rolls. Several gentlemen not liking this movement, erased the names of their wives. Several ladies and their friends, named Jones, and one no woman claimed the privilege of voting, and the men had it all their own way.

Ed. Cleland, a young man from Cleveland, swallowed an ounce of laudanum at Peoria, Ill., Saturday night, and died yesterday morning.

The court house and jail at Depre, Wis., were burned to the ground yesterday morning. Both had just been completed and turned over to the county authorities. The fire originated from a pistol in the pocket of a prisoner named Wm. Bowman, who was in jail awaiting trial for arson.

In Madison, Wis., on Sunday, Mike Dolan and William Houseman were arrested for playing cards, when the former fatally stabbed the latter.

James P. Watkins, living near Jefferson, Iowa, whipped his wife brutally when she was at the point of confinement, and she died within an hour. After an examination he was discharged on the ground of insufficient evidence.

NEW YORK

NEW YORK, March 13, 1871.

LOST OVERBOARD.

The steamship Europa, from Glasgow, lost overboard during a gale, on the 4th inst., Capt. McKinnel, First officer Hance, and Third officer Wallis, several of the forward sea no boat could be lowered to attempt to rescue them.

SUMMONS CONCURRED.

Thos. Murphy, regarded as an accomplished forger, not the accomplice of Van Elten, lately sent to prison, was committed by Justice Dowling to jail for $5,000, on complaint of buying small articles from merchants, giving large bills in payment, and receiving change for the difference, which he altered to large amounts and passed.

CANNON COMPLETED.

The cannon of the East River bridge, Brooklyn, has been completed.

FREE PASS.

Preliminaries for the fight between Tom Collins and Billy Edwards were arranged to-day. The men are specified as perfect fits each, to fight on the 24th of May, within one hundred miles of New York for $5,000 a side.

FUNERAL.

The funeral of the late colored State Senator, Josiah L. Lyons, of Virginia, took place yesterday afternoon at Williamsburg. The body was taken to Union Cemetery, where it was interred with Masonic honors.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

Coal, Salt, Tea and Coffee Free of Duty.

An Episode in the Senate—Speech of Mr. Fenton on Civil Service Reform—Ku-Klux Legislation the Only Thing in the Way of Adjournment, &c., &c.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 13, 1871.

An Episode.

Which caused considerable amusement in the Senate yesterday, arose upon the question of referring the French spoliation claims to the Foreign Relations Committee. Mr. Sumner moved such reference, and then to suggest upon Cameron, the newly appointed Chairman of this Committee, and asked his careful and personal attention to this subject, as it was a most important one, involving glorious principles of international law, profound historical knowledge, and thorough familiarity with French diplomatic matters for the past century. He himself had worked to secure favorable action on these claims for twenty years, but had always failed by reason of opposition in various quarters. When the Massachusetts Senator took his seat a cadet, yet amiable, smile went around the Senate. Cameron not nodding his head while Sumner was speaking, as if he partly understood what the former was driving at, and when the instructions of the former head of the committee were finished, hardly knew whether to reply or not. He, however, made the best of the situation, thanked Sumner for calling his attention to the matter, and promised that the claims should receive all the attention his humble ability would permit.

Salt, Coal, Tea and Coffee Put on the Free List.

In the House, to-day, after members had finished presenting bills and petitions, Mr. Hale, of Maine, got the floor and moved the suspension of the rules, in order that a resolution might be passed at once abolishing the duty on salt. The House sustained the resolution by a vote of 145 to 46, the yeas and nays being ordered.

Mr. Farnsworth then offered a resolution that coal be added to the free list, which was adopted without a division. He also moved to put tea and coffee on the free list, which was carried by the same vote. Several motions to adjourn were voted down, the yeas and nays being ordered on each. At the stage of this act ten and coffee be placed on the free list, and no further import duty shall be collected on the same. The yeas and nays were ordered, and on a motion to adjourn it was negatived. The main question recurring on the motion of Mr. HALE. It was decided in the affirmative, yeas 141, nays 46, so the bill was passed.

Mr. WILSON, of Indiana, introduced a resolution declaring the Thirteenth, Fourteenth and Fifteenth amendments to the Constitution of the United States duly ratified by three-fourths of the States, and no State has a right to withdraw its ratification after it has been once given; and further, that Congress has a right to impose the ratification of these amendments as a condition precedent to representation in Congress. The preamble to the resolution refers to the action of the Democratic members of the Senate of Indiana.

Mr. COX asked for a division of the question, so as to have a separate vote on that part of the resolution declaring the amendments valid which have been ratified by Georgia, and after the situation.

The SPEAKER said that under a suspension of the rules the resolution could not be divided.

The question was taken and decided in the negative, the vote standing 109 for and 107 voting therefor.

The House at free o'clock adjourned.

RAILWAY MATTERS.

THE NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 13, 1871.

SENATE.

Mr. FENTON, reminded the customs service of various points of entry in the United States, and the disposition of fines, penalties, and forfeitures collected under laws relating to the collection of duties for other purposes. By unanimous consent the Senate to-day was awarded the floor.

After some conversation the Senate took up the bill, which had for Mr. FENTON's bill was referred to the Committee on Finance.

On motion of Mr. THURMAN, the Senate took up the House resolution for final adjournment on Wednesday, thereby making it the first business in order thereafter.

After a short executive session the Senate at 3:40 adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Bills were introduced and referred as follows:

By Mr. MYERS to repeal the income tax.

By Mr. SHELABARGER, to divide the State of Ohio into three Judicial Districts, and for other purposes.

By Mr. COLBURN, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States in relation to the election and appointment of officers.

Mr. DAWES offered the following resolution:

Resolved, the Senate concurring, That the Speaker of the House and President of the Senate adjourn their respective Houses at the first session of the Forty-second Congress, on Wednesday, 19th inst., at 12 o'clock M., without day.

Mr. BUTLER, of Massachusetts, objected to debate, and an ineffectual motion was made to lay the resolution on the table. The resolution was then agreed to, yeas 126, nays 67.

Mr. HALE offered the following:

Be it enacted, by the Senate and House of Representatives, That from and after the passage of this act, salt shall be placed on the free list, and no further import duty shall be collected on the same.

Mr. KELLEY remarked that he believed the motion to suspend the rules was made to avoid going into committee on a revenue bill.

The motion recurred on Mr. Hale's motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution. It was decided in the affirmative, yeas 145, nays 46, so the resolution was passed.

Mr. FARNSWORTH moved to suspend the rules in order to pass a joint resolution now offered by him, that from and after the passage of this joint resolution no tax or duty shall be levied or collected on foreign coal.

Mr. DICKEY moved to adjourn. Negatived.

The question was taken on Mr. FARNSWORTH'S motion, and the yeas and nays were ordered. The result was yeas 152, nays 57, so the joint resolution was passed.

Mr. RANDALL moved a suspension of

The Daily Commercial.

TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 1871.

THE elaborate report of the Water Commission is given herewith. It will be seen that the statements made in the COMMERCIAL yesterday of the site recommended was correct. The enterprise, in an important sense, relates to the future of Pittsburgh, and the subject at the present moment has an interest for every citizen—more especially tax-payers, who have the satisfaction of knowing that thus far the work has been intelligently and thoroughly done. It is estimated that the cost of the proposed works will be $2,304,0?8.

THE New Hampshire election occurs to-day. In addition to the regular Republican and Democratic nominees there is also a full Labor Reform ticket in the field. Whether the displacement of Mr. SUMNER will materially affect the contest to be decided to-day we cannot of course foretell. In the Presidential election of 1868 General GRANT'S majority was 7,347, and at the State election of last year the Republican candidate for Governor was elected by a majority of 9,236 over his Democratic competitor, and by a plurality of 8,366 over the combined Democratic and Temperance vote.

THE fact that Senator ADAMS, of Mississippi, who is Gen. BUTLER'S son-in-law, voted to depose SUMNER, is causing considerable comment. There are two leading suggestions in the case: first, that BUTLER is hankering for SUMNER'S place in the Senate, which looks much of its force in view of the fact that the treatment SUMNER is receiving will make him all the stronger in Massachusetts. Second, that BUTLER has an eye—that eye—on the Presidency, and is on the alert to hang mill stones to GRANT'S neck, like that which this SUMNER business has attached thereto. There are a good many riddles to vex the mind just now, and this is not the least puzzling of the batch.

A CURATIVE needed reform, and one which might be imitated with great advantage in nearly all the large cities of the Union, is at this juncture being prosecuted in New York city—to wit, the prostitution of the bar. Judge BARNARD, of the Court of General Sessions, has put his foot down against the infamous practices of the lower class of criminal lawyers, one of whom, in default of heavy bail, he committed to prison a few days ago, while the discussion between Gen. BARNARD and Mr. D. D. FIELD, counsel for Fost, promises to result in relieving the bar of the taint which unscrupulous practitioners of professional eminence and social respectability have indicted on its reputation. The moral courage exhibited by Judge BARNARD and General BARNARD is worthy of all praise. Present indications are that the controversy which Mr. FIELD has provoked will result in an authoritative inquiry into his professional conduct. The chief value of the agitation lies, however, in the fact that it is toning up the moral sense alike of the profession and of the judiciary. There is no doubt that a vast amount of sharp practice by lawyers and trafficking of justice by judges has for a long time been carried on, and we are glad to observe the growing presence brought to bear on both classes in behalf of honesty and fair dealing.

THE million-minded New York *Herald* can quote more Scripture and practice less of it than almost any other journal in the country. Its Sunday issue has no less than seven different editorials on religious subjects, in all of which the question under reference is treated in a manner at once so exhaustive, authoritative, sympathetic and persuasive—and with such marvelous fecundity of thought, felicity of language and beauty of illustration—that the charmed reader is at once impressed with the idea that the *Herald* must be a sort of confidential adviser to the Infinite. It is delightful, too, to learn that "Mr. BENNETT is in perfect harmony with the *Herald*," and that the *Herald* promises to "abide by him," as well as by his Holiness the Pope and every one of the multitudinous oppugnant sects and creeds which come under its benignant notice. "The power of the *Herald* and the power of Plymouth Church," it gleefully exclaims—"what can resist such a combination?" To which we answer, surely nothing can resist it, only it has somewhat the sound of a playbill or a circus placard, and it inclines us to fear that unless the *Herald* is indulging in a bit of irony, the eloquent pulpit orator has indeed made himself "friends of the summon of unrighteousness." However, we are glad to observe these indications of piety on the part of our contemporary. To be sure they have been a considerable time in making their appearance, and we could have wished they bore a little less evidence of coquetry and more of sincerity, but it is something gained when a man snaps his fingers in the face of DARWINISM on Sunday, even if he does serve him faithfully all the other days of the week.

ON WHAT a hollow foundation of flattery and corruption did the "glory" and "prestige" of NAPOLEONISM rest. The secret papers of the Second Empire have just been exhumed and published, and the commentary they form on the vanity, falsehood, deception and intrigue which characterized the reign of "the nephew of his uncle," is of the most bitter and ironical character imaginable, when considered in connection with the pompous bombast with which it was inaugurated, and with his late pitiful protesting whine over the downfall of his "dynasty." And what a terrible revealing glimpse of the chronic moral insincerity of French character is afforded by the complimentary letters of certain distinguished scholars and authors to whom he had presented gift copies of his "Life of Cæsar." OCTAVE FEUILLET, having received a copy, fawns upon him like a spaniel. JEHAN SAINTRENE insults the shades of CÆSAR by asserting that the Emperor has conferred upon his memory "the fresh lustre" of his own greatness. And the Archbishop of Bourdeon declares that he thinks JULIUS CÆSAR was exceedingly fortunate in having conquered the Gauls and composed his commentaries, "since otherwise the Emperor would have done both." And so on through a long list of literati, savans and statesmen. It is as sad and humiliating as the sycophantic cry of that other cringing crowd who, two thousand years ago, prostrated themselves before HEROD, and shouted "it is the voice of a God and not of a man." What lasting triumphs of political government or social order can be expected from a people in whom the malady of parasitism lies so deep? Revelations such as these indicate anything else rather than the possession of that thoughtful spirit of manly self-respect, out of which enduring institutions can alone grow. POOR FRANCE!

IS IT true that there is less regard for human life in the United States than in any other Christian country? The allegation is often made and there is surely no lack of facts which seem to give it plausibility. Foreigners who visit us, are struck with the absence along our railroads of many of those precautions against accidents with which they have been familiar on the railroads of other countries, while Americans who travel on the railroads of Europe, in the presence of easily and cheaply affected arrangements for safety, find themselves wondering at the recklessness to which they have been accustomed at home. Then, it really appears that nowhere else in the Christian world are the impressions produced by a frightful railroad catastrophe so speedily effaced as in the United States. Americans are excitable, imaginative, sympathetic and easily moved to compassion for the sufferers and their friends, and to indignation against those whose avarice or indifference has occasioned the calamity. The pity is that the excitement awakened do not last long enough in their first intensity to bring forth the proper and desirable results in action. We are readily satisfied with the promise of amendment, and our anger with wrong vanishes in the hope of better performance in the time to come. In so far as indulgence proceeds from this cause it may be admitted to be amiable, but the habit of making excuses is a powerful promoter of the moral weakness to which we refer among a people [illegible] men of whom secretly or openly indulges the hope of securing some [illegible] more or less distinguished [illegible] performed. According to the *Scientific American* there were last year in the United States not less than one hundred and eighteen steam boiler explosions, by which three hundred and twenty-six men were killed and two hundred and twenty-one more wounded or scalded. The same high authority believes that such accidents might be prevented, or at least rendered of very rare occurrence, by a properly organized and managed system of inspection, but has no hope that the remedy can be successfully applied. Whatever measures were provided, politics would corrupt their operation. In too many cases conscience and principle would be powerless in the presence of political influences, and of the drunks and expectations which they inspire.

THE GREAT TYRANNY.

The decree of the late Senatorial caucus deposing Mr. SUMNER from the chairmanship of the Committee on Foreign Relations, so speedily and factionally executed by the Senate itself, will arouse the attention of the public to the demoralizing tendencies of this modern *imperium in imperio* which selfinvolved, assigns no responsibility, but exacts a more than servile obedience. The Legislative caucus were originally nothing more than a meeting, not always secret of the members of a party in a legislative body, to exchange opinions, concert measures, and form and collect the general judgment of the party in subordination to the duties of the invidual legislator as defined by law and his solemn oath. Of doubtful propriety and morality from the beginning, the caucus degenerated first into intrigue, and has now touched the depths of hateful tyranny. Heretofore it assailed the independence and purity of the legislature by a powerful but secret influence; to-day it dares to show its hideous face in the United States Senate demanding the execution of its bloody behests by its willing and unwilling headsman.

Mr. SUMNER was not removed from the committee by the votes of a majority of the Senators as Senators. We have the sad painful confession of men in whom the country justly places confidence, that while their views of public duty, judgments and conscientious were *against* the proposed removal, they felt constrained to support the decree of the caucus. One goes further, and we have his confession of wrong, his execration of his wrong and his vote for the wrong, all on the same record. Messrs. MORRILL, SPRAGUE, and others who helped to execute the decree, after having resisted it in caucus, are no doubt good citizens and upright legislators, but they are none the less the instruments of a public wrong. THURMAN, WILSON, SCHURZ, LOGAN, TURNER, and others had brave words to utter against the tyranny and injustice, but not one of them dared to *vote* against the caucus measure. One class of Senators admitting that they such vote against their conscience, and and another abdicating their functions and refusing to vote at all! Senator WILSON called the proceeding a farce. If he had described it as a mockery of all constitutional and Senatorial obligation, his words would have had meaning. Twenty conscientious, numbering among them the oldest and purest of the body, chained down to the ground—sinking the Senator in the servant of a tyrant! To put the case again: A Senator is elected to represent a State. He is judgment and conscience, his views of public duty, are presumed to guide him in the discharge of his public trust. He is, indeed, presumed to have been chosen with reference to these qualities. He goes to Washington, and is informed that he must subordinate his judgment to the behests of one side of the party organization. He attends the caucus—and is informed that he is bound by its decrees—that his own opinion, judgment, conscience, wishes of his constituents, even oath of office, go for nothing. Does he think a proposed measure unconstitutional, and he has taken an oath to support the Constitution? The caucus says: "Raise no scruples here. Obey us, or be kicked out. Your highest responsibility is to us."

It is a mistake to suppose that the caucus humiliates in the majority the man of the party it professes to represent. In the recent Senatorial caucus twenty-six gave the law to the Senate composed of seventy-two members. Of these twenty-six it is well known that several were dragooned into its service. Cunning is here a more valuable quality than honesty; intrigue is more potent than statesmanship.

The caucus has chopped off the heads of a good many political friends, but has not succeeded in making any votes among the people. If we are not mistaken it has given *Brutus* a dangerous if not fatal wound. Let it sing "weep and unhonored" and be buried out of sight.

METHODISM.

The Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church have been engaged in holding the sessions of the Annual Conferences of that numerous and influential denomination since the 14th of December last. Sixteen of the seventy-two conferences into which the church is divided, have at this date been held, and on the 15th the sessions of the Philadelphia, the Kansas and the Pittsburgh Conferences will begin their respective sessions.

In the absorbing interest which the Franco-Prussian war has awakened and maintained, it has escaped that notice which it would seem to have deserved, that since the session of these conferences a year ago, a revolution in the polity of Methodism then in progress, has been carried to its successful consummation, in so far, at least, as the action of the Annual Conferences could consummate it. The tacit or acknowledged theory of Methodism has heretofore been, that the government of the Church was in its ordained itinerant ministry. For the laity its legislation pertained only to matters spiritual and pastoral oversight. The theory in principle was the same as separate to the utmost verge consistent with their interpretation of the explicit teachings of the New Testament.

In consistency with its theory, its only legislative body was composed exclusively of Ministers—and this constituted also its highest Court of Appeal. Whatever may be the merits or demerits of the system there is no possibility of doubting the facts set forth in its century of history, of its stupendous growth and the almost marvelous multiplication of its membership, its increase in wealth, position and power, and its abundant prosperity in all material and religious interests. Its rapidity of progress is perhaps unexampled, save in the era of the primitive church. Whether this success was largely due to the singularity of its government, which left its ministry untrammelled and secured to them a peculiar freedom of action, is a matter concerning which there have been and still are differences of opinion; and indeed, all through its history there have been greater or less efforts making to change the practice of the church and popularize its government. The result of these efforts, viz.: the creation of a sentiment sufficiently strong to induce the General Conference of 1868 to submit the matter to the vote of the people, as to whether a representation should be given to the laity of the church at the subsequent sessions of that body; and also to submit to the Annual Conferences, for rejection or approval, a plan for the introduction of lay representation—and the fact that the requisite majorities of both laity and ministry were found in favor of the change—these are all matters of history now, and the new principle of a conjoint clerical and lay government is now accepted and acquiesced in by all parties in the church. The plan concurred in by the Annual Conferences provides for the appointment of one layman by each of the several quarterly conferences of the several conferences, and these laymen shall constitute an electoral conference to meet on the third day of the session of the Annual Conference immediately proceeding the General Conference, there and then to elect not more than two laymen as their lay representatives in the General Conference. The statistics and ratio of representation will make the General Conference upon this plan to be constituted with a large preponderance of ministerial members, thus giving to them on any joint vote a very considerable majority. But that this may be neutralized, the plan provides that:

> "At all times when the General Conference is met, it shall take two thirds of the whole number of those and all lay delegates to form a quorum for transacting business.
>
> "The clerical and lay delegates shall sit and deliberate together as one body, but they shall vote separately by orders, and no separate vote shall be taken on the concurrence vote of both orders shall be necessary to constitute an action."

By this arrangement it will be seen that it would be competent or possible for a bare majority of either order to prevent the passage of any measure which might be proposed. Suppose now that a full roll should give 216 ministerial and 72 lay members in the General Conference, it would be competent to transact business when there were present 144 ministerial and 48 lay members, or upon a strict construction of the law, perhaps, an aggregate membership present of 192 in any proportion would be sufficient. Upon the same strict construction a separate vote could be secured by the call of two-thirds of two-thirds of the entire ministerial or lay membership, and it will therefore be readily seen that a case might arise in which it would be possible for a very small majority of either of the constituent parts of the body to absolutely lock the wheels of legislation.

For this and for other reasons there seems to be apparent in the Church a disposition to secure a fuller lay representation, and to obtain the sanction of the Conferences to give instructions to their delegations to provide for an equalization of lay and clerical representation, and also to have them in inseparable connection—and that no distinction as to voting and action in the General Conference shall be made. This it is contended will be safer for the Church, less liable to the revival of the obnoxious charges of "hierarchy," "oligarchy," and "caste," as well as being much more republican. Some such movement will perhaps be made in the Conferences now about to assemble.

Another question previously somewhat mooted, has suddenly, under the inspiration of the Bishops' course in regard to the "Book Committee," assumed an importance which was hardly looked for, and is likely to be THE question of the few years to come—that is the question as to the modification of the Episcopacy. The propriety of its life tenure of office is strongly questioned. It is claimed to be not in accord with the spirit of the age. It is held to be anti-republican, and especially now since the adoption of the new principle in the government, it is by many accounted dangerous to the liberties of the ministry and laity to vest for life such prerogatives and powers in an independent body, holding their office for life and receiving their support from a source different from that upon which other ministers are dependent; and it is thought that their influence thrown into the scale may tend to prevent the accomplishment of purposes deemed to be wise and necessary by a majority of both laity and ministry. It is further said that the life tenure of office removes them too far from the masses of the ministry and membership of the church, and creates an isolated class. Many have conceived the idea that, as they are simply officers, the creation of the General Conference, their term of office, like that of all other General Conference officers, should determine and close with the ending of each General Conference, so that each of those delegated bodies should have the privilege of electing the officers for its own session and quadrennium.

Other modifications are also attracting the attention of the newspapers and the leading minds of the church, such as the doing away with the Presiding Eldership, forming Episcopal districts, fixing the Episcopal residences, the relation of woman in the church, and the right to ordination to the work of the ministry, &c., &c.; and the tendency would appear to be to make the change in the constituent elements of the chief legislative body of the denomination the signal for a leveling process, both down and upward, so as to conform the institutions of the church to the most approved and radical republicanism, and to accord with the demands of the most liberal and enlightened spirit and progress of the age; so that in government as well as in doctrines it shall be the broadest church in the land.

Meantime, there is also a slight ruffling of its peace in regard to doctrine, or to a particular phase of religious belief, and personal experience. It is alleged that the so-called doctrine of "Holiness," or "Christian Perfection," as the elder writers term it, is by certain parties in the Church pushed to an extreme, and given undue prominence to the damage and lessening of the doctrine of justification. The same subject has found a wider sphere of discussion outside of this denomination under the name of "the higher life," and camp meetings of enormous proportions, in that interest; and special services for the promotion of the doctrine have been held, and are being appointed in many different parts of the country. This difference is, however, the only doctrinal difference in the denomination, apparent as a disturbing element, and is not, perhaps, likely to result in any serious trouble, or occasion any loss. In the investigations which it may cause the doctrinal lines may be drawn more distinctly, and its theological definitions and science may be made more exact, and it may acquire a greater precision in its interpretation and application of particular passages of Holy Writ; and thus the Church spirit in its minutest peculiarities may become better understood and more widely appreciated.

Whatever may be the result with reference to the matters now largely receiving the thought and attention of the church, we may be allowed to express the hope that the magnificent history of its first century may be followed by a record which shall be abundantly worthy of the illustrious past. Its present status may be seen from the summary of its statistics published at the close of its round of Conference sessions for 1870:

Its traveling preachers then numbered	9,193
Its local preachers	11,404
Its membership was reported at	1,175,009
Its probationers were	194,695

Giving a total membership of ..1,387,731

In its 16,915 Sunday Schools there were 189,412 officers and teachers, 1,221,203 scholars, and 2,759,152 volumes in libraries. It has 13,375½ churches, valued at $52,614,-304; 4,179 parsonages, valued at $7,708,513. It baptized 66,481 adults and 124,643 infants. It contributed for the support of its Conference claimants composed of superannuated ministers, widows and orphans, $129,-898 81. For missions, $641,482 23; for church extension $67,246 14; for Tract Society, $21,786 32; for American Bible Society, $84,711 61, and for the Sunday School Union, $22,736 52. The grand total of the money thus contributed being $960,861 62.

THE last number of the *Golden Age* contains a well written article by Colonel HAYS, in which he takes the same view of our diplomatic service which the COMMERCIAL has before urged, and joins issue with the growing demand that these offices shall be made permanent at increased rates of salary. The gravest imperfection of the present system he alleges to consist in the incessant bullying practiced by aspirants upon Congressmen and by them upon the President, who is indirectly censured for yielding to the "indiscreet pressure" brought to bear upon him in favor of improper appointments. We agree with the writer that this whole business of throwing the weight of personal influence in favor of men who happen to be personal friends, without respect to their character and qualifications, is a miserable nuisance. But it is only a constituent part of the abominable lobby system. What is needed is, not that a branch shall be pruned here and lopped off there, but that the tree itself shall be digged up by the roots. When position is conferred upon clamor instead of merit, and when honest and capable men are beheaded for no other reason than that of party discipline of party exigency, it is time that the whole methods of procedure in these and similar matters were radically overhauled.

RECENTLY, MUS. E. De Geer delivered a lecture at Chicago in defense of Free Masonry, in the course of which she said, in reference to the objection that it was an oath-bound society: Was there anything wrong in that? Had not God himself sworn and said to his servants in olden times? What was the baptismal covenant but an oath, or the marriage contract, or the naturalization paper, or the obligation assumed by every public servant of all the governments of earth? And so, too, of society. Was that a crime? Was not the bible full of justifications of this? Governments were full of State secrets. The child confides its secrets to its parents, the husband to his wife, the client to the lawyer, the Catholic to his priest, the patient to his physician. When all secrets died out of the world, it would be at a sky far removed from this.

THE singular fact is shown that the Australian colonies assisted in the revictualing of Paris. Cooked meats from these localities were of good service, as fuel as well as food was short. In anticipation of a successful sortie from the capital, the French government stored many tons of these meats as near as possible to the city. These stores were available immediately after the signing of the armistice, and ten days previously one firm alone dispatched from London to Paris, more than a quarter million canisters of Australian beef and mutton. During the siege these meats were not issued pro rata as rations, and at one time, when prices were at the highest point, a six pound canister sold for four pounds.

At the Jacksonville (Ill.) insane asylum, last week, one Jerome Myers is said to have died from insanity caused by love. The object of his affections was Miss Nilsson, the songstress. During her last visit to Chicago, he wrote her a number of letters, but as no answers were mailed to them, he endeavored to obtain an interview with her at the hotel where she was stopping. This was, of course, denied him, and he became insane, and so incomfortable that he was sent to the asylum, where he died as stated, from a broken heart.

THE Hon. Justin S. Morrill writes in the *Independent* to prove that "the National capital is not movable." Probably some short-cut logician on the Western frontier would like to know what the people of this country can't do when the majority say the word. A great many things have been done, from Jacksonville

James T. Brady & Co

BANKERS,

Fourth Avenue and Wood Street,

FINANCIAL AGENTS OF THE UNITED STATES FOR

FUNDED LOAN OF 1880, 1885 and 1900.

Subscription Books Now Open.

JAS. T. BRADY & CO.

IRA B. M'VAY & CO.,

Cor. Fourth Ave. and Smithfield St.,

BANKERS,

DEALERS IN

Government Securities AND GOLD,

WE DRAW BILLS OF EXCHANGE ON

JAY COOKE, McCULLOCH & CO., LONDON.

IRA B. M'VAY & CO.

FINANCE AND TRADE

MONDAY EVENING, March 13, 1871.

Our local market is in a very comfortable condition for borrowers. The demand from number one men is limited, but there is hardly up to the supply, and not of the large discount houses are able to take a considerable paper. Money is quite plentiful with note interests, who are looking for something a will pay. The class of capitalists expect gilt and prepare at 10 per cent., or first class bond and stock at from 6 to 10 per cent. Other users willing to borrow at reasonable rates it would not be found to get the proper kind of investments.

Government bonds seemed dull and apparently lacking. It is thought that prices will be suffered to go off temporarily to a point to be built offer, as success of the new loan is somewhat dependent on a higher range of prices for the old bonds.

Messrs. Ira B. McVay & Co. furnish the following quotations of Government bonds in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cooke & Co., their correspondents:

	Morning	Noon.	Closing.
6s, Bonds of 1881	115½	115½	115½
6s, Bonds of 1881	113½	113½	113½
5s, Bonds of 1904	113½	113½	113½
5s, Bonds of 1905	113	113½	113½
5s, Bonds of 1881 (coupon)	113½	113½	113½
5s, Bonds of 1907	113½	113½	113½
5s, Bonds of 1908	113½	113½	113½
10s	111½	111½	111½

The New York Times says: We repeat, from edition of Saturday, the following announcement in regard to the scrip to be issued for the new 5-per cent loan. A number of the New York clearing Agents for the loan have already expressed a readiness to issue their own scrip certificates in their notices in exchange for 6-20s, and for a time the gold interest upon the latter to the 1st of it, or if preferred that gold will forward the 5-20s to the Department and return the scrip certificate of the Treasury.

The Treasury has furnished upon the immediate issue of scrip certificates to represent the new five bonds, registered or coupon, to be delivered to the holder or holders of the scrip on the first of it, from which date the interest will run. The 6-20s, which may at once be surrendered, will be on, with the allowance of the full six per cent. in to the first of May, in exchange for the scrip of new loan; the latter becoming in all respects the equal representative of the new stock. These features we gather from the telegraphic information in the afternoon, which are since officially confirmed.

The New York *Herald* (sunday edition) says the new 5-per-cent loan progresses and at times excitedly. Western Union Telegraph and Otto and Market-st continue dull and without changing about moderate accommodation, the former hanging at and the latter at . With reference to the rise, it is said that the Baltimore party unloaded their last month and a week short, intending to at the price by meeting from the negotiations a third of stock and a part of the road, but start battle of some monstrous buyers, who e expect to be "Vanderbilted" or "Jay Gouldlater, finding the Baltimore party obvious of risk to carry it for a temporary ation the scheme of a strong connection in London, quietly absorbed the stock against the nal selection, when he is directions of their own ices they may turn the coin and Wesleyan into a northern extension of the Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati road. The "Brothers Chance" is e stalking about Wall-street, and his manoeuvres as greatly enliven the operations and speculators he stock market. The last statement produced effect, the bank having been expanded—a sign th the street is inclined to regard as genuine for the present. The future of the banks would be the first to contract.

The following table, made up from dispatches reof at J. W. Kennedy's Stock Room, Apollo Building, No. 5 Fourth Avenue, shows the prices of ver stocks, Gold, etc., at the various sessions of New York Stock Exchange during the day:

March 5, 1871.	10 a.m.	12 m.	1 p.m.	2 p.m.	3 p.m.
Gold					
Sterling					
6s, Coupon, 1881					
5s, Coupon, 1874					
5s, Coupon, 1881					
5s, Coupon, 1904					
5s, Coupon, 1905					
6s, Currency					
Pacific Mail					
Western Union Tel.					
Quicksilver					
Quicksilver Pref.					
Wells, Fargo & Co.					
Canton					
Cumberland Coal					
New York Central					
Erie					
Erie Preferred					
Hudson River					
Reading					
Michigan Central					
Michigan Southern					
Illinois Central					
Cleveland & Pittsburgh					
Chicago & Rock Island					
Pittsburgh & Fort Wayne					
Chicago & Northwestern					
Chicago & Northwestern Pref.					
New York & Harlem					
Atlantic & Great Western					
Ohio & Mississippi					
Ohio & Mississippi Pref.					
Toledo & Wabash					
Terre Haute					
Terre Haute Pref.					
Fort Wayne					
Indiana Central					
Panama					
Union Pacific					
Union Pacific Land Grants					
Union Pacific Income Bonds					
Sales					

The Boston Advertiser's financial article says:

The week opened with a little more activity than was expected, but the business was not large, and the market was dull and heavy. Money is in good supply at 6 per cent. on call, and the banks are not pressing for loans. The Treasury is paying out considerable currency for interest, and the banks are receiving it on deposit. The Treasury is also receiving subscriptions to the new loan, and the banks are receiving deposits on account of it. The banks are not pressing for loans, and the Treasury is not pressing for subscriptions

THE VERY LATEST.

WASHINGTON.

A SELF-ADJUSTING CURRENCY

Cincinnati Southern Railroad—Commission on Southern Claims, &c., &c.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 13, 1871.

Southern Claims Commission.

The commission to audit and settle Southern claims under the act of Congress passed at the close of the last session had a meeting to-day, and concluded to organize at once. Mr. Benjamin, who has been connected with the War Department for several years and has had charge of all claims of this character coming there, was appointed secretary. The commission will have a large amount of work and business to begin upon. It was determined to issue a notice in a short time, stating when the commission will be ready to hear claims. It was thought that everything would be ready by the first of April.

Bill to Make the Currency Self-Adjusting.

The bill to make the value of currency self-adjusting, which was introduced in the House to-day, was, it is stated, prepared under the auspices of the New York Mercantile Journal Company, whose President is actuary of the New York Chamber of Commerce. The plan set forth in the bill is said to be under consideration by a committee of the latter body, in conjunction with a committee from the National Board of Trade. The leading object of the bill, as stated by its friends, is to enable the West to get additional currency without the payment of premium. The result it is expected, will be accomplished by providing for the issue of bonds at the East in place of securities of greenbacks; that bonds to be transmitted West in payment for grain or currency West to be exchanged for bonds or currency on application to the Assistant Treasurer of the United States. The friends of this measure claim that the bill is a middle ground, in which the contractionists and expansionists can unite without compromising either, and that it will effectually remedy the quarterly stringency which regularly prevails in the money market. The bill is said to be supported by the representatives of over two hundred millions of New York capital.

Population of St. Louis.

The census returns of St. Louis county, just published at the Census Bureau here, show a total population of 310,864, of which 196,625 are natives of the United States, and 112,240 are foreign born; of the latter 56,306 are Prussians. The total German population is 60,000; total colored, 22,668.

The Cincinnati Southern Railroad Bill.

Being last on the Senate calendar for reference, Mr. Sherman to-day moved that the Cincinnati Southern Railroad bill be referred to the Committee on Commerce. Garrett Davis objected to the bill taking precedence, and made a voluminous constitutional argument to show that it should go the Judiciary Committee. When he had concluded the Senate, by a large vote, sustained Sherman's motion.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 13, 1871.

REDEMPTION OF COPPER COIN.

The Secretary of the Treasury has issued a circular concerning the redemption of copper and other token coins. All parties holding such coins, in sums of twenty dollars or upwards, will forward the same to the Mint of the United States at Philadelphia, in sums of not less than twenty dollars, addressed to the Superintendent of the Mint at that city, in the usual form of remittances, and upon what Assistant Treasurer or Depositary he may designate, payment, by draft or check may be drawn upon the Assistant Treasurer or Depositary at Philadelphia, Boston, New York, Baltimore, Charleston, St. Louis or New Orleans, at the option of the party forwarding coin. The expenses of transportation, when the coin is forwarded in sums of twenty dollars and over, must be paid by the parties sending them to the place of redemption.

POLITICAL.

ARIZONA, Mar. 13.—J. J. Hriech, Republican, was elected Mayor to-day by the majority.

RICHMOND, Me., March 13.—E. B. Wedgewood, Democrat, was reelected Mayor by 300 majority.

BANGOR, Me., March 13.—Rowe, Republican, was elected Mayor by 185 majority. Wakefield, Temperance candidate, received 105 votes. Republicans gain since September election, 600.

MEMPHIS, March 13.—Brooks's Little Rock special to-night says: Political affairs in Arkansas have again undergone a change and the situation assumed an entirely new phase. Information of the reading of the journal to-day, a message was received from Gov. Clayton, announcing the resignation of Lieut.-Gov. Johnson, and appointing him to the position of secretary of state, vice White, resigned. The Senate went into executive session at once, and confirmed the appointment of Johnson, who was sworn and entered upon the discharge of his duties as Secretary of State. As soon as this was done, the Senate proceeded to ballot for a President, which resulted in the election of Senator Hadley, of this city, over Colonel Dunn. Shortly after this it was generally known that Clayton had re-entered the arena as a candidate for United States Senator. It is thought now in well informed circles that he will be elected on the first ballot to-morrow. The contest, however, exists in urging his claims, and may prove an ugly snag in the way of the Clayton aspirations, though the Clartonite's claim. White cannot carry even the colored members, although at a public meeting Saturday night they were addressed by Governor White. McDonald will be the strongest opponent Clayton will have. The Conservatives will vote for a man of their own choice, and may possibly hold the balance of power, though it is doubtful.

RAILROAD WAR.

Heavy Reduction in Freights to the West—A General Railroad War Imminent.

NEW YORK, March 13.—The *Express* says there has been a heavy reduction in railroad freights to the West. The rates on first-class freight to Chicago are now one dollar per hundred pounds, with a corresponding reduction of other classes to other points. Present indications point to a general railroad war and lower freights, which can only be made by some cutting under the regular rate of one dollar to Chicago.

NEWS SUMMARY

BY TELEGRAPH.

George Rice, a wealthy man of forty-three years of age, residing near Kirksville, Mo., was arrested on St Louis warrants, charging him with having stolen $5,000 worth of presidential.

Princess Lempoliten, second daughter of Don Pedro II, Emperor of Brazil, died in Vienna, aged twenty-four years.

Mr. S. H. Gillis drowned himself near Loveland, Ohio, yesterday, while drunk.

A man named Bunker was killed in Wraklin county, Ky., Saturday night, during the attempted entrance of a private house by a Mc Klee band.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, March 13, 1871.

DEPOSITS BANDED OVER.

When the Central Bank of Brooklyn failed, the deposits of the United States amounted to about $50,000. The assignee has handed over to the United States District Attorney a check for the amount.

ADDITIONAL RIVER DISPATCHES.

Memphis.

MEMPHIS, March 13.—Clear; mercury 58. River rising; falling rapidly; 4 feet 10 inches on the shoals. Departed: Minnesota, Cincinnati; Legal Tender, White river; Dr. Hall, Memphis; Birmingham, Cincinnati; Mary Martin, City of Cairo, Belle of Memphis, Sharon, Red river. In the port: Ben Hur, Cincinnati; Ed. Richardson, Red river; Lucy Gwin, Yazoo; Sallie Wood, Red river.

New Orleans.

NEW ORLEANS, March 13. Arrived: 16 S. Turner, J. F. Ingles, Louisville; Cincinnati, Cincinnati; Memorie, St. Louis. Departed: Judge Howard, St. Louis.

Nashville.

NASHVILLE, March 13.—Passengers: Upon falling with 4 inches feet in Harpeth Shoals; Woodbine five and one-half; Memphis, Cincinnati; Cumberland, Evansville; Cincinnati, Louisville; Evansville, Cincinnati; Cumberland, Cincinnati; Cumberland, Louisville; Cincinnati, Cincinnati; Cumberland, Louisville; Cincinnati, Cincinnati; Cumberland, Louisville; Cincinnati